

Message Text

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EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES SISCO AND WRIGHT

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: EFIN, IN
SUBJECT: INDIAN RUPEE SETTLEMENT: STATUS REPORT

1. CONGRATULATIONS ON A BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE. NO MATTER HOW IT ALL COMES OUT, THE VERY FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THE AMENDMENT DELETED FROM THE DEFENCE PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL WILL MAKE A STRONG IMPRESSION HERE. I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO YOU BOTH.

2. I AM NEVER MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AWAY FROM WASHINGTON AND WILL RETURN IMMEDIATELY UPON HEARING FROM EITHER OF YOU THAT I MIGHT BE OF HELP. DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK ME TO COME AS I KNOW THAT BOTH OF YOU HAVE MUCH MORE PRESSING MATTERS ON YOUR HANDS AT THIS TIME.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPECTED AID BILL CONFEREES, MARSHALL WRIGHT AND I HAVE ALREADY CALLED ON FULBRIGHT, HUMPHREY AND AIKEN, AND I ASSUME THE SENATE CONFEREES WILL BE SYMPATHETIC TO OUR CASE, EVEN THOUGH BOUND BY THE SENATE ACTION. UNFORTUNATELY THE ONLY ONE OF THE HOUSE CONFEREES WITH WHOM I WAS IN TOUCH WAS CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI. HOWEVER, I DID HAVE A LONG AND PLEASANT CONVERSATION WITH HIM

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CONCERNING THE JOHN W. MCCORMACK INDO-AMERICAN PEACE HOSPITAL AT BANGALORE. I ASSURED CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI THAT THE HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION WAS GOING ALONG SMOOTHLY, IF SOMEWHAT DELAYED, AND THAT THERE WOULD BE MORE THAN

SUFFICIENT RUPEES AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER OUR PROPOSED SETTLEMENT TO PROVIDE CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO THE ST. JOHN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE COMPLEX WHICH THE MCCORMACK HOSPITAL IS ONE FACILITY. MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE CONGRESSMAN WAS MORE THAN SATISFIED WITH THE ARRANGEMENT AS PROPOSED, AND I AM SURE THAT HE WOULD UNDERSTAND A REPRESENTATION BY US TO THE EFFECT THAT A RUPEE SETTLEMENT, BY PROVIDING THE UNITED STATES WITH A FIXED AND SETTLED SUM, IS THE ONE WAY TO GUARANTEE THE FUTURE OF WHAT WE ALL THINK TO BE THE IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES GOING ON IN ST. JOHN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE. IN THE ABSENCE OF A RUPEE SETTLEMENT WE ARE FORCED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE INDIANS FOR EVERY NEW PROJECT, WITH THEM INCREASINGLY RELUCTANT ABOUT ALMOST ANYTHING. IN ADDITION WE FACE THE POLITICAL PRESSURES FOR REPUDIATION. ZABLOCKI IS A FINE MAN AND I THINK HE WOULD BE OF GENUINE HELP TO US.

4. I HOPE ALL CONCERNED WILL KNOW THAT THE PRESIDENT STATED TO THE SECRETARY AND TO ME THAT THIS WAS A MATTER OF THE VERY FIRST IMPORTANCE WHICH HE WAS SURE COULD BE WORKED OUT ONCE THE CONGRESS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE AGREEMENT COMES BEFORE THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEES UNDER PROVISION OF EXISTING LAW.

5. FOR THE MOMENT, ONCE MORE MY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH, AND TO THE INDOMITABLE TEAM OF LAINGEN, KUX, BORN AND HAWES.
MOYNIHAN

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